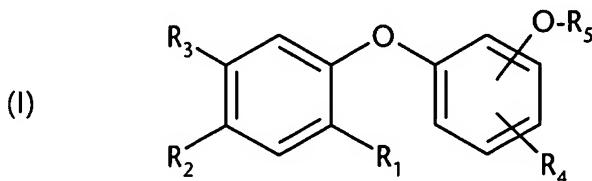


IN THE CLAIMS

1-5 (cancelled).

6. (previously presented): A method of inhibition of arylsulfatase on the skin of a person in need of said inhibition, which comprises applying to said skin a composition comprising an effective amount of at least one arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance selected from hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



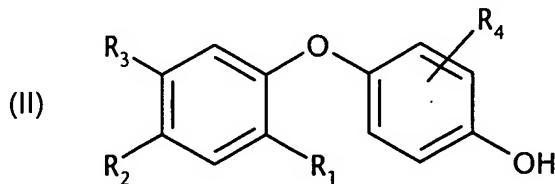
wherein

R₁, R₂ and R₃ independently from each other are hydrogen; hydroxy; C₁-C₂₀alkyl; hydroxy-substituted C₁-C₂₀alkyl; C₅-C₇cycloalkyl; C₁-C₂₀alkoxy; C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl; phenyl; or phenyl-C₁-C₃alkyl;
R₄ is hydrogen, C₁-C₂₀alkyl; hydroxy-substituted C₁-C₂₀alkyl; C₅-C₇cycloalkyl; hydroxy; formyl; acetonyl; allyl; carboxy; carboxy-C₁-C₃alkyl; carboxyallyl; C₂-C₂₀alkenyl; C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl; C₁-C₃alkylcarbonyl-C₁-C₃alkyl; phenyl; or phenyl-C₁-C₃alkyl; and
R₅ is hydrogen; C₁-C₂₀alkoxy; or C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, with the proviso that at least one of R₁, R₂, R₃ or R₄ is OH or R₅ is hydrogen.

7-8 (cancelled).

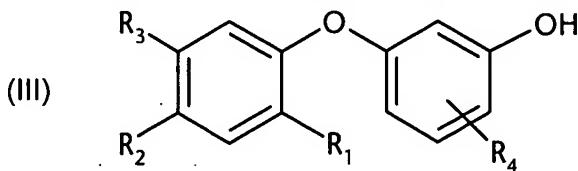
9. (currently amended): Method according to claim 6 of inhibition of arylsulfatase on the skin of a man, according to claim 6, wherein the arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is used for reducing body odour in men.

10. (previously presented): A method according to claim 6, wherein the arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is selected from hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



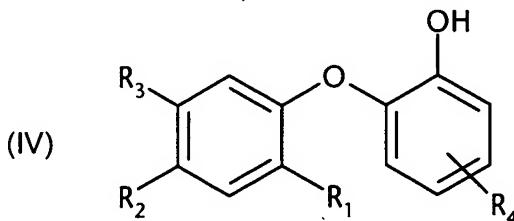
wherein R₁ and R₂ are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or a C₁-C₂₀alkyl, C₅-C₇cycloalkyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₁-C₂₀alkoxy, phenyl or phenyl-C₁-C₃alkyl group, R₃ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₂₀alkyl or C₁-C₂₀alkoxy group and R₄ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₂₀alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C₁-C₂₀alkyl, C₅-C₇cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₂-C₂₀alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy-C₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₃alkylcarbonyl-C₁-C₃alkyl or carboxyallyl group,

hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



wherein R₂ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₂₀alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C₁-C₂₀alkyl or C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl group, R₁ and R₃ are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl group or a C₁-C₂₀alkyl group and R₄ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₂₀alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C₁-C₂₀alkyl, C₅-C₇cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₂-C₂₀alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy-C₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₃alkylcarbonyl-C₁-C₃alkyl or carboxyallyl group, and

hydroxydiphenyl ethers of general formula



wherein R₁ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl or C₁-C₂₀alkyl group, R₄ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₂₀alkyl, hydroxy-substituted C₁-C₂₀alkyl, C₅-C₇cycloalkyl, hydroxy, formyl, acetyl, C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl, C₂-C₂₀alkenyl, carboxy, carboxy-C₁-C₃alkyl, C₁-C₃alkylcarbonyl-C₁-C₃alkyl or carboxyallyl group and R₂ and R₃ are each independently of the other a hydrogen atom or a C₁-C₆alkylcarbonyl or C₁-C₂₀alkyl group.

11. (previously presented): A method of inhibition of arylsulfatase according to claim 6 wherein the composition comprising an effective amount of at least one arylsulfatase-inhibiting substance is a deodorant or antiperspirant composition.